



Billing Code: 4510-43-P

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Mine Safety and Health Administration**

**Proposed Extension of Information Collection; Periodic**

**Medical Surveillance Examinations for Coal Miners**

**[OMB Control No. 1219-0152]**

**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program helps to assure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments on the information collection for Periodic Medical Surveillance Examinations For Coal Miners.

**DATES:** All comments must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** Comments concerning the information collection requirements of this notice may be sent by any of the methods listed below.

- *Federal E-Rulemaking Portal:*  
*<http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments for docket number MSHA-2016-0041.*
- *Regular Mail: Send comments to USDOL-MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12<sup>th</sup> Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, VA 22202-5452.*
- *Hand Delivery: USDOL-Mine Safety and Health Administration, 201 12<sup>th</sup> Street South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, VA 22202-5452. Sign in at the receptionist's desk on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor via the East elevator.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sheila McConnell,  
Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances,  
MSHA, at [MSHA.information.collections@dol.gov](mailto:MSHA.information.collections@dol.gov) (e-mail);  
(202) 693-9440 (voice); or (202) 693-9441 (facsimile).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Background**

Section 103(h) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 813(h), authorizes MSHA to collect information necessary to carry out its duty in protecting the safety and health of miners. Further, Section 101(a) of the Mine Act, 30 U.S.C. 811 authorizes the Secretary to develop, promulgate, and revise as may be appropriate, improved mandatory health or safety standards for the protection of life and prevention of injuries in coal and metal and nonmetal mines.

The Mine Act authorizes the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to study the causes and consequences of coal-related respiratory disease, and in cooperation with MSHA, to carry out a program for early detection and prevention of pneumoconiosis. NIOSH administers the National Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program, "Specifications for Medical Examinations of Underground Coal Miners," as specified in 42 CFR part 37. 30 CFR 72.100 contains collection requirements for these activities in paragraphs (d) and (e).

Section 72.100(d) requires that each mine operator must develop and submit for approval to NIOSH a plan in accordance with 42 CFR part 37 for providing miners with

the required periodic examinations specified in 72.100(a) and a roster specifying the name and current address of each miner covered by the plan.

Section 72.100(e) requires that each mine operator must post on the mine bulletin board at all times the approved plan for providing the examinations specified in 72.100(a).

Section 72.100(d) and (e) are requirements that mirror NIOSH information collection requirements under 42 CFR 37.4 (existing OMB No. 0920-0020). Including these requirements allows MSHA to use its inspection and enforcement authority to ensure that operators comply with these provisions.

## **II. Desired Focus of Comments**

MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the proposed information collection related to Periodic Medical Surveillance Examinations For Coal Miners. MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of MSHA's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Suggest methods to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

The information collection request will be available on <http://www.regulations.gov>. MSHA cautions the commenter against providing any information in the submission that should not be publicly disclosed. Full comments, including personal information provided, will be made available on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov).

The public may also examine publicly available documents at USDOL-Mine Safety and Health Administration, 201 12<sup>th</sup> South, Suite 4E401, Arlington, VA 22202-5452. Sign in at the receptionist's desk on the 4th floor via the East elevator.

Questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION section of this notice.

### **III. Current Actions**

This request for collection of information contains provisions for Periodic Medical Surveillance Examinations For Coal Miners. MSHA has updated the data with respect to the number of respondents, responses, burden hours, and burden costs supporting this information collection request.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection

*Agency:* Mine Safety and Health Administration

*OMB Number:* 1219-0152

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit

*Number of Respondents:* 1,223

*Frequency:* On occasion

*Number of Responses:* 1,468

*Annual Burden Hours:* 1,142 hours

*Annual Respondent or Recordkeeper Cost:* \$441

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

**Sheila McConnell,**  
***Certifying Officer.***

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